

**MINUTES**  
**SEX OFFENDER RESIDENCE BOARD**  
**OF THE CITY OF GREEN BAY**  
**Wednesday, July 10, 2013**  
**Room 310, City Hall**  
**2:30 p.m.**

**PRESENT:** Dean Gerondale, Ben Heiman, Kathy De Cremer, Renee Keehan, Heidi Michel, Attorney Kail Decker

The meeting was called to order by Dean Gerondale.

**1. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

Motion made by Kathy De Cremer to approve the June 12, 2013 Minutes, seconded by Ben Heiman. All in favor. Motion carried.

**2. APPEALS**

- a. Appeal of Samuel Brandt requesting to move to 471 Huron Rd.

Samuel appeared by telephone from the Sanger Powers Correctional Center. Dean Gerondale advised Samuel of his right to discuss treatment issues in closed session and informed him not to use the names of the victims.

Samuel would like to move in with his mother and step-father. His mother has lived in her home since 1978.

Samuel said the offense occurred because he wasn't getting enough attention from his wife. It lasted over a period of approximately three years. The victim told a friend and the friend told her mother. They took the victim to the crisis center. Samuel believes he pled no contest, but is not sure because it's been over seven years.

Samuel and his wife divorced in July 2011, but until recently, they still spoke to each other. Samuel intends to look for a job but realizes he may have to go back to school in order to secure a good job. He's also interested in beekeeping and gardening. Once released, Samuel will attend support groups.

Dean Gerondale references Samuel's treatment program report dated January 25, 2013, particularly the reoffense indicators. He asked Samuel what he feels he needs to continue to work on based upon the items checked on the report. Samuel stated he knows he has problems making and keeping adult friends. He's not an outgoing person and this keeps him isolated. He needs to work on making friends and hopes to do this through support groups. Samuel does not believe he will reoffend.

Samuel stated this is the only sexual offense for which he's been convicted. He has never molested another child in which he hasn't been convicted. Renee Keehan asked about the other victim. Samuel stated he only looked at this person while she was doing cartwheels and gymnastics. He was 19 years old at the time. He did not assault her and denies he watched her undress. He was in his 40's when he was charged with sexual assault.

Julie Cole (mother), 471 S. Huron Road, Bill Cole (step-father) 471 S. Huron Road and Dale Brandt (father), 504 S. Langlade Court are present at this meeting. Julie and Bill would like Samuel to live with them to help him get reestablished in the community. They feel this was one isolated incident and it will never happen again. Other relatives are also ready to support Samuel. Neighbors are not aware Samuel may move in with his mother and father.

A motion to approve the appeal of Samuel Brandt was made by Heidi Michel, no second. Motion failed.

Discussion. Kathy De Cremer stated she is undecided. Although Samuel has a good support system, other issues concern her. Because Samuel was incarcerated for almost 8 years, Dean Gerondale asked if there were opportunities to do more than just S02 treatment during that time. Samuel stated that many of his issues didn't come to light until he started attending the S02 group, and this wasn't offered to him until his last year of incarceration. It was a 6 month, two day a week program which he took while at Oshkosh Correctional.

Samuel was transferred to Sanger on May 10, 2013. He wanted to remain at Oshkosh until his release date, but they transferred to minimum security. Samuel wished he could have started a treatment program earlier in his incarceration. When he spoke with the program review committee, Samuel told them he felt it would be more beneficial to take S02 or S04 programs early while incarcerated and then follow up with aftercare the remainder of the time. The committee agreed but said "higher ups" controlled the programs and it was more cost effective the way it is currently run.

Samuel realizes he will have a difficult time once he's released and he'll encounter a lot of road blocks. He may never be in a leadership position. Prior to incarceration, he worked for Tyclone Laboratories for 16 years. Julie Cole (mother) stated that Samuel had many jobs while he was incarcerated and has a strong work ethic.

Once released, Samuel will probably be required to enroll in aftercare treatment, and Samuel does want to do this.

Dean Gerondale stated he is uncomfortable placing Samuel right now. Dean does not have enough information to be certain Samuel won't reoffend. Perhaps going to the TLP and seeing Jim Drake would be a better option at this time. Renee Keehan, however, feels Samuel's mother will look after him.

A motion to APPROVE the appeal of Samuel Brandt was made by Renee Keehan, seconded by Heidi Michel. Three in favor, two opposed (Ben Heiman, Dean Gerondale). Motion carried.

b. Appeal of Cary Johnson requesting to move to 1413 Smith St.

Cary appeared in person. Dean Gerondale advised Cary of his right to discuss treatment issues in closed session and informed him not to use the names of the victims.

Cary stated he is no longer at the TLP because his time to stay there was up. He is currently staying at different motels. His agent has now told him she does not approve of this address. He is trying to find another location but is having difficulty because of his credit. Cary is currently working two jobs.

Cary stated he will reapply once he finds a different address. He came to the meeting today because he wanted to explain the situation instead of just not showing up.

A motion to DENY the appeal of Cary Johnson was made by Ben Heiman, seconded by Kathy De Cremer. All in favor. Motion carried.

c. Appeal of Joseph Vaquera requesting to move to 1139 Walnut St. (upper)

Joseph appeared in person. Dean Gerondale advised Joseph of his right to discuss treatment issues in closed session and informed him not to use the names of the victims.

Joseph would like to live with his mother and fiancé at 1139 Walnut Street. His fiancé has no children. Joseph's 14 year old victim was his high school girlfriend at the time. Joseph was age 17. They have a 15 year old daughter who lives in Texas.

Joseph was released but got revoked because he failed to complete SOT treatment. Joseph feels he is now doing well. He has also been going to Brown County for depression therapy and is on medication. Joseph is a full time student at NWTC taking automotive technology classes. He also meets with his parole officer twice a week. His parole officer has approved this address and has also met Joseph's family. His mother and fiancé are his two chaperones. Joseph stated he is staying out of trouble and wants to get his life back together again.

In 2011, Joseph was approved to live at the TLP. At that time, paperwork was being processed for an interstate transfer, but because he's now doing so well here, he would like to remain in this community. Joseph's mother and fiancé are currently living at 1139 Walnut Street. Joseph has paid four month's rent up front for them. He was able to do this with money left over from financial aid which he receives for school.

Joseph is currently sleeping at the TLP but leaves at 6:00 a.m. and gets back about 8:00 p.m. He is at school and visiting with his family during that time. Joseph began attending school in June and it is a two year program.

Joseph attends his treatment program every Saturday morning from 9:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. He is currently on GPS. A call was placed to the TLP to confirm he is staying at the TLP, but no one answered the phone. Several calls were also placed to his parole officer, Erin Murto, but there was no answer.

A motion to approve the appeal of Joseph Vaquera, address specific, was made by Heidi Michel, seconded by Kathy De Cremer. Two in favor, three opposed (Dean Gerondale, Renee Keehan, Ben Heiman). Motion failed.

Discussion: Dean Gerondale feels there is a lack of information and some things just do not add up. Renee Keehan agrees. Joseph feels he has provided enough information. Dean pointed out he hasn't completed SOT1 and wonders why Joseph is under so much security. Renee stated that the last time Joseph came before the board, he was planning to move back to Texas, he was going to see Jim Drake, and he hasn't finished treatment.

A motion to DENY the appeal of Joseph Vaquera was made by Dean Gerondale, seconded by Renee Keehan. Four in favor, one opposed (Heidi Michel). Motion carried.

Joseph asked how staying at the TLP is helping him or the community. He feels he has furnished all the necessary information. He has been approved by the landlord, his neighbors know about his convictions and he's attending school. Renee points out they have no documentation stating that the neighbors approve him living there.

Joseph said he will try to get more information and come before the Board next month.

- d. Appeal of Anthony Swett requesting to move to 1250 Klaus St., Apt. B

Anthony appeared in person. Dean Gerondale advised Anthony of his right to discuss treatment issues in closed session and informed him not to use the names of the victims.

Anthony is currently living at this address. He has been before the Board previously and was approved at an address near this one. It was foreclosed on so he had to leave and had been bouncing around for about six months. His children and their mother live with him.

His girlfriend started living at this address in April. Anthony had been staying at the Motel 6 and other places temporarily. Anthony moved in with them about 1-1/2 months

ago. His parole officer approved him living here temporarily until the board approved it. She has made several home visits.

Anthony is employed at Gippers and may get a second job at Mobil One Lube Express.

A motion to APPROVE the appeal of Anthony Swett, address specific, was made by Dean Gerondale, seconded by Heidi Michel. Three in favor, two opposed (Renee Keehan, Kathy De Cremer). Motion carried.

- e. Appeal of Ira A. Antone, IV requesting to move to 1181 Shawano Ave.

Ira appeared in person. Dean Gerondale advised Ira of his right to discuss treatment issues in closed session and informed him not to use the names of the victims.

Ira was just released from a halfway house in Hayward, Wisconsin. He is currently staying at different motels in the area. Ira is originally from Michigan. He's been trying to get interstate there, but has been denied. Until then, he has to remain in Green Bay. He's lived in Green Bay since 2006 when he was released. He will be under supervision approximately three more years. Ira recently starting working at Services Plus.

Ira served five years for first degree sexual assault of a child. He was living in Milwaukee in 1996. He came to attend his grandmother's funeral. He was using drugs and drinking heavily at the time. Ira went to a party at the reservation and while he was in the bathroom, the victim came in and asked him to walk her home. They drank and started making out. Ira was 19 years of age at the time. He did not know how old the victim was, but he knew she was younger than him and underage. He thought she was at least 15.

After the incident, Ira felt very upset and guilty. He told her to go home. She went home crying and told her mother what happened. Ira stated they did not have sexual intercourse, but because the victim was a relative, the state of Michigan charged him with first degree sexual assault.

Dean Gerondale asked Ira what will be different this time around and what will keep him out of trouble. Ira stated he has established a support group. Even though his family doesn't live in Green Bay, they go out of their way to help him both financially and socially. On Mondays, Ira attends AA in Green Bay. He has a sober friend named David who is traditional and David has helped Ira decide where to go spiritually. Ira wants to live a healthy lifestyle. Giving up drinking has really turned his life around.

Ira does not believe he needs anger management treatment. He doesn't drink any longer and does not feel he is angry.

Dean would like to approve Ira for a period of 90 days, after which time he should come before the Board again and provide treatment documentation.

A motion to APPROVE the appeal of Ira Antone, IV, address specific, for a period of **90 days**, was made by Dean Gerondale, seconded by Kathy De Cremer. All in favor. Motion carried.

### Other Business

Attorney Kail Decker is present at the meeting to answer questions the board members may have.

Renee Keehan wanted clarification regarding whether offenders can live with parents if the parents have resided in their home at least two years. Attorney Decker stated this no longer applies. An amendment was made on the floor by an alderman when the ordinance was changed in mid 2012. There is no longer an exemption when living with a family member.

Renee also wanted clarification regarding the 150 foot rule. Attorney Decker explained it as a 24/7 rule. An offender can live over 150 feet away from a park, etc. if he gets approval from the board, but no matter what, without any type of exemption ability or exceptions that are not listed in the ordinance itself, sex offenders cannot go within 150 feet of a park, school or daycare during any time of the day, 24/7. This means they cannot live within 150 feet of these areas, also.

To explain it more clearly, Attorney Decker stated: "Picture it like this. Go to a random school in the city and then measure a radius of 150 feet around that school. That's the area that certain offenders that are designated by our ordinance cannot enter that area unless they meet one of the exceptions, under any circumstances, 24/7.

From 150 feet to 2000 feet away from that same school, they can't live there unless they get an exemption from the board or if they fit into one of the exceptions. So it's almost like there's two tiers around every single school, park or daycare in the city."

Renee asked if there is a way the board can be notified when a change is made. Attorney Decker stated he can send them ordinance updates as they occur.

Renee asked if there is any way to obtain information about offenders from Heidi Michel regardless of her being employed by the TLP. Attorney Decker stated this would violate HIPAA laws. Heidi Michel stated she cannot even tell them if someone is staying at the TLP because it is considered a treatment facility.

When asked his opinion, Attorney Decker stated he feels the ordinance should be repealed. Based upon evidence, by denying people, the public is more at risk. Studies have proven that it's more about relationships and access to kids, not about where you live. If you are denying someone you feel is dangerous and likely to recommit, they are

now the people who are homeless and offenses are increased because of this and their not having a stable background. If they are put in a stable residence, there is better supervision by the DOC, they have a better chance of getting a job, and they become stable in the community.

Dean Gerondale believes people in the city of Green Bay feel they've been dumped upon when it comes to sex offenders living here. Dean believes that because other communities have done away with their ordinance, more and more people will go to those communities to live.

Heidi Michel stated she disagrees because she deals with people every day who are looking for housing. There are landlords in every community who will not rent to a sex offender. Offenders who don't know their victim reoffend more often. She also pointed out that 980's are supervised even in their own yard. Some won't even look at their neighbor for fear of being sent back to jail.

### **3. NEXT MEETING DATE**

The next meeting date of August 14, 2013 was confirmed.

A motion adjourn was made by Renee Keehan, seconded by Kathy De Cremer. All in favor. Motion carried.